NEWS



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New GPS Technology Results in Arrest of a Sexual Violent Predator in Orange County

Anaheim – Today the Parole Operations Division of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) announced the arrest of a sexual violent predator in Anaheim, CA as a result of the new GPS technology – the first since the innovative program was launched in Orange County last month.

The November 15 arrest of Robert Dobucki came mere weeks after 40 sexual violent predators were outfitted with GPS units in the Orange County area. These units allow parole agents to monitor the movement of parolees in real time and can track the specific movements of a parolee - down to a specific address.

"Our primary concern is to protect public safety," said Secretary Roderick Q. Hickman. "These parolees know that any minute of any day their movement is being monitored by agents and police investigators." Added Hickman, Our commitment is to do whatever it takes to protect the public from this type of offenders."

As part of monitoring, the parole agent checked into the movement history of the Robert Dobucki, whose condition of parole was to stay out of areas where children frequent. The GPS history log showed that Mr. Dobucki has been on the parking area of a grade school in the City of Orange. Further investigation revealed that the parolee has also been to a doll shop, and to "Adventure City," a small amusement park for children. Mr. Dobucki was taken into custody by parole agents and booked into Anaheim jail for violating special conditions of his parole.

"What is amazing is how specific this technology is," said Jeff Fagot, Regional Parole Administrator. "The parole agent was able to determine an exact location and duration of Mr. Dubacki's whereabouts which allowed us to make an arrest before a crime had occurred."

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GPS units are being used throughout the country. Recently, the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation launched its pilot program in Orange County. This phase is especially exciting because of its partnership with the Orange County Sheriff's office. The partnership includes real-time crime scene correlation which means that parole agents and law enforcement can not only see the movement of a parolee in real time, they can also view the locations of recent crimes to determine if a parolee was in an area at the time of a particular crime. This is the first program of its kind in which a law enforcement agency can not only access CDCR data but also share its data with CDCR parole agents – putting the program at the forefront of GPS technology. "The partnership between the State and our Department means that Orange County will be a safer place", said Sheriff Michael Carona. "This is already proving true. GPS is proving that it will be that much harder for criminals to prey on the innocent."

CDCR began the pilot program using GPS technology to track paroled sex offender in San Diego County and parts of San Bernardino last July. The program was expanded to include Orange County in October.

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